

"Extract from Entry From Marquis KIDO's Diary, 2 Aug 41"

August 2nd, 1941 - Extract)

I went to my office at 10 a.m. Prince KONOYE visited me at 11 a.m. He said he was annoyed to find that there was an observable tendency for the tough elements in the Navy to gather strength, a tendency which may lead to political difficulties and cause anxiety in the maintenance of harmony between the Supreme Command and the Government. I said if the U.S.A. adopted measures such as to cut us off from supplies of oil, we would run out of oil. Our oilen hand will not last two years at the longest. Under these circumstances, we would be threatened by an acute national crisis, if we made any mistake in our diplomatic moves. Hence a thorough discussion between the War and Navy Ministers concerning our fundamental national policy should be held as soon as possible, and if a complete agreement is not reached, there would be nothing to do but to resign.

The Army and the Navy would then assume charge of the administration of the country. I talked with the Chief Secretary on the same matter.

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